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SOURCE Zarya Vostoka.

REINFORCED CONCRETE TO BE SUBSTITUTED FOR METAL  
IN PRODUCTION OF LARGE PIPES

A running meter of a cast-iron pipe with a diameter of 1,250 millimeters weighs one ton. Enormous quantities of metal would be required to satisfy the country's demands for large water and sewage pipes. The new method of producing large stressed reinforced-concrete pipes, introduced at the concrete combines of the "Zakmetallurgstroy" [Construction of Transcaucasus Metallurgical Enterprises?] Trust, is of great importance for the national economy. In 1947, the Ministry for Construction of Heavy Industry Enterprises USSR instructed the "Zakmetallurgstroy" Trust to develop production of reinforced-concrete pipes which could replace metal pipes. The experimental research work has produced good results.

The all-Union standard for large metal pipes produced in the USSR does not exceed a diameter of 1,050 millimeters. The experimental plant in Rustavi produces stressed reinforced-concrete pipes with diameters of 1,500, 1,250, 900, 700, or 500 millimeters. By 1949, the experimental plant had produced stressed pipes which were able to stand a pressure up to 16 atmospheres. Industrial production of pipes resisting a pressure up to 6 atmospheres has now been organized, and it is safe to assume that the limit will soon be raised to 10 atmospheres.

The advantage of the pipes produced by the "Zakmetallurgstroy" Trust is their low production cost and simple construction. Any large construction project may build its own installation for producing such pipes. Instead of one ton of metal, one running meter of pipe now requires only 75 kilograms of metal.

The Ministry for Construction of Heavy Industry Enterprises USSR has realized the great importance of the work done at Rustavi and has decided to build similar installations at five large USSR construction projects in 1951.

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The demand for stressed reinforced-concrete pipes is very great. The Rustavi installation has produced 1,500-millimeter pipes for the Donbass. The main consumer for these pipes in the immediate future is "Bulachaurstroy." For the first time in the construction of water mains, reinforced-concrete pipes are to be used for long distances. The new pipes are also being used extensively in the construction of Rustavi.

In place of the small experimental installation, a well-equipped plant is now being built. Assembly-line production of large reinforced-concrete pipes and sleeves is being organized.

By decree of the Council of Ministers USSR, a number of persons who participated in developing and introducing the new methods of pipe production were awarded Stalin Prizes.

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